

ETHICAL VALUES AGAINST AGRESIVITY AND VIOLENCE IN SPORT

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Abstract: In the general sense, ethics is the philosophical discipline that aims to present a justification or evaluation the moral of different rules, motives, intentions, beliefs or activities. Evaluation and formulated standards are applied to procedures in relation to other persons and the person as such. The main purpose of ethics is that of raising the level of morality and therefore the aspiration to eliminate a variety of negative behaviors. All moral principles must be communicated from an early age both by parents and by educational institutions.

Game and sport respond to deep human needs and play an important role in all societies and communities cultures. No other activity has so much force and energy to mobilize and bring people across barriers cultural, linguistic or professional. Sport is not a luxury for any society, but rather an important investment in the present and the future of a nation.

The term "aggressiveness in sports" has been commonly used to define a range of different behaviors: violent outbursts, beating, aggressive attacking player in football, aggressive hitting of an opponent. In sports psychology, aggression is attributed to any intentional behavior to injure another individual or object by verbal or physical means.

JEL classification: M30, M31, M39

Key words: ethics, morality, sport violence, sport behavior, competition.

1. INTRODUCTION

In the last few decades, sport has evolved from society to leisure, to a major industry, with a direct contribution to increasing social welfare (through the socialization effects it generates by improving the biological condition of its society members) and economic (through its contribution to consumption, income, tertiary sector, employment and local, regional and national economic development).

The most important aspects of fair-play in sports are:

- cheating
- handling rules in favor of a competitor
- abuse of food additives
- physical and verbal violence
- harassment and sexual abuse
- discrimination
- exploitation

- unequal opportunities
- excessive marketing

Much of the relationship between violence and sports in the ancient world derives from the link between ancient sports and war. Sport has been valuable as a military training technique and has also been valuable as a replacement for direct military conflict.

Battlefield tactics required soldiers to be in excellent shape, and fighting skills learned from fighting sports were invaluable during the war.

Sport requires consciousness, freedom, thought, equality between people, and must be understood as an educational process in which fair-play dominates (Arai and Kaplanidou, 2013).

A feature of today's socio-economic activities is the competition that finds in the field of sport all possibilities for application and proliferation.

On the other hand, sport has a tremendous influence on public opinion, and the presence of commercial broadcasters has increased the opportunities to get huge profits from sports. Thus, victories and incredible performance has emerged as a necessity and often the sole objective of sporting activity.

The work "Ethical values against agresivity and violence in sport" aims to present a series of theoretical elements regarding the concept of ethics and morality in sports and sports competitions, the phenomenon of ethics in sport and the explanation of the notions of aggression and violence that appear in the sports society.

This work aims to present the ethical implications within the sport, which is developing more and more thanks to the continuous effort known by the modern society.

2. LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1 *Theoretical notions on the concept of ethics and morality*

In our days, the concept of "ethics" has been used to understand and study the morality; the universal rules or the principles of the right behavior. There is another conception of "ethics" which, as mentioned above, is simply moral philosophy. According to this concept of ethics, academics are engaged in the systematic conceptual investigation of some reflective questions about how we should live our lives (Baker and Boyd, 2014).

One of the most important starting points in the study of ethics is the correct understanding of the meaning and meaning of the terms with which it operates. This, because in the common sense, as well as in some studies, analyzes, interpretations or moralizing speeches, in scientific papers or press articles, the basic terms of the moral domain are often used inadequately.

2.2 *Ethics in sports*

It is well known that sport mirrors society.

Consequently, at different times, the value and expression of fair-play can vary from society to society. The more civilized the society is, the higher the level of moral awareness and sense responsibility. However, it was demonstrated that success is considered more important and can be achieved by any means.

Sports success brings social and financial benefits, which for some is a strong and irresistible temptation.

Athletes have always been models which influence the young people. The behavior of elite athletes can have a significant impact on young people because they admire and aspire to imitate sports heroes, especially their actions and attitudes (Bauer and Stockburger-Sauer, 2008).

Sport faces new challenges in modern society. Commercial pressure, exploitation of young people, racism, corruption, money laundering are some of these. If most of these sports crimes are definitely condemned, some of them would perhaps deserve a new, more nuanced approach. Can there be morally acceptable forms of doping? What this phenomenon unanimously repudiated by all sports institutions (Ralea and Hariton, 2001).

Among those who invent new doping methods and sports ethics organizations is a permanent race. The first are looking for methods that can not be detected, the latter - performing ways to detect. As a rule, however, those in the first category are always one step ahead.

It is important to note that the spirit of sport does not just refer to games, competition, fair behavior by athletes versus its opponents. Promoting clean sports also takes place from all those involved - directly or indirectly - in sports: coaches, judges and referees, parents and teachers, doctors, spectators and fans, officials, scientists, cadres academics, media, sponsors and sports organizations - all who are equally responsible for fair-play behavior (Constantinescu and Gheorghe, 2015).

The most common examples of "ethics" in sport that occur on various occasions, such as conversations, as well as academic literature, are issues of fairness, the prevalence of sport as a place of abuse and exploitation of children, homophobia and so on (Potincu and Potincu, 2014).

Doping affects all levels of athlete. It could also affect future generations that can be influenced by what top athletes do. In order to protect the integrity of sport, the health of sportsmen and young people aspiring to sport around the world, we need a concerted and comprehensive approach to the fight against doping (Barbu, 2012).

It is essential for the nature of the sport itself that viewers and participants of all sports be convinced that the competition is clean and that sport brands maintain their reputation (Florea et al., 2018). The brand of the sport team can be considered as one of the most important asset of the sport organization (Crăciun and Barbu, 2014).

2.3 Aggressiveness and violence in sports

Aggression in a sporting environment enters into the field of social psychology.

It can be said that aggression includes behavior, aggression includes intention, aggression involves the degradation or disorder of another person or objects (Hansen and Gauthier, 1989). Sports psychological literature distinguishes between instrumental aggression and one that has something to target. One of the latest psychological theories has developed aggression explanations as a frustration-aggression hypothesis. This theory suggests that frustration amplifies the probability of aggressive behavior; In this case, frustration is defined as a blocked target response. Frustration can lead to whistle-blowing among fans and denunciation of their own teams (Ogarcă, 2009).

People are watching sports for many reasons. The management of the sport organization must find ways to "educate" the fan base so that undesirable behaviors are avoided (Barbu and Barbu, 2011). So often the clubs publications encourage aggression and violence toward the opposite teams and this is not an ethical behavior (Mălăiescu

and Avram, 2018). Therefore the employees of the sport organization are called to provide and advocate for an ethical behavior (Bocean, 2009). The use of ICT in management communication can increase the performance of the organization (Vukadinovic et al., 2016). Violence is a risk for sport organizations and the management of risks is the job of top management (Dugalić, 2011.)

Many ancient sports began as rituals to honor the gods, a leader or the deceased, and later developed into large public shows with city or country celebrations surrounding the games (Jacobson, 2001).

Academic studies have found that violence and aggressive play in sports can serve to enhance the value of entertainment for a sporting event. Aggressive and violent play can enhance the value of entertainment because it adds drama. Some social scientists assume that sports events offer a way to counteract human aggression for both athletes and spectators.

The theory of catharsis, or the theory of the purification of emotions, is based on the work of Austrian ethnologist Konrad Lorenz. His theory has some supportive hypotheses: "(a) that destructive energy accumulates spontaneously in the body, (b) that the execution of aggressive acts reduces such energy to tolerable levels, a process that is pleasantly experienced, (c) that the performance of actions (d) the fact that even the confession of competitive actions serves this function, it is assumed that the popularity of sport - realization and viewing has been taken into account."

Much of the relationship between violence and sports in the ancient world derives from the link between ancient sports and war (Trial and James, 2001). Sport has been valuable as a military training technique and has also been valuable as a replacement for direct military conflict.

Battlefield tactics required soldiers to be in excellent shape, and fighting skills learned from fighting sports were invaluable during the war. Violence in modern sports can be traced back to ancient sports, where violence has been an inevitable result. These ancient sports had few restrictions, and even those rules that were in place were not always applied.

3. FINDINGS AND DISCUSSIONS

Given the nature of research issues, this study was based on a survey, believing that this method is best suited to gaining insights and acquiring knowledge that is currently not so well grounded in the athlete's brand literature. Due to insufficient in-depth examinations in this area, our paper must be a starting point and a prelude to future investigations that can be based on the existing study.

As research methods in this paper we used bibliographic study, where we concentrate on the analysis of specialized literature, and statistic-mathematical method in data processing.

This study was conducted between October 25 and November 25 on a sample of 80 people. The questionnaire contained 13 questions that first aimed at creating a profile of people questioned and then followed various aspects of ethics and violence in sport. So in order to get an image of the respondent's profile, we analyzed the responses of 80 respondents.

Table 1. Descriptive statistics of the respondents

Variable	Classification of the variable	Frequency	Percentage
Gender	Male	36	44
	Female	44	56
Civil Status	Unmarried	59	73
	Married	21	27
Age	20 – 30 years	40	50
	30 – 40 years	12	40
	40 – 50 years	10	13
	Over 50 years	8	7
Study	Highschool	17	21
	College	49	61
	Postgraduate studies	14	18
Occupation	Public sector	8	10
	Privat sector	14	17
	Other occupation	58	63
Environment	Urban	66	83
	Rural	14	17
Income	0 – 1500 ron	38	48
	1500 – 2000 ron	27	32
	2000 -3000 ron	14	17
	Peste 3000 ron	1	3

Source: authors' research

We present in the following paragraphs the description of the socio-demographic structure of the subjects of the research.

As for the sex of our respondents, we observe that 44% are female and 56% are male. As regards the civil status of respondents, the majority of 60% are married and 40% are unmarried.

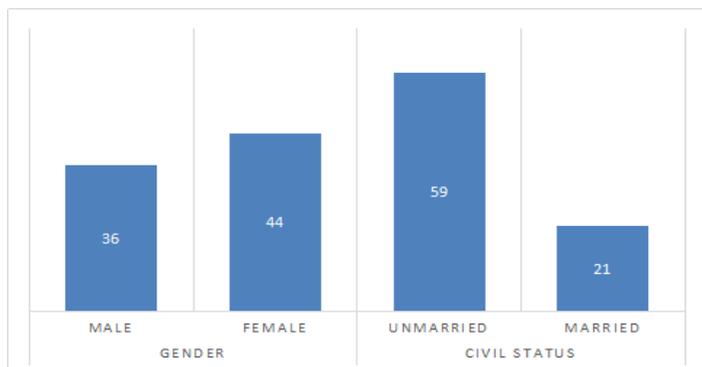


Figure 1. Distribution of respondents by gender and marital status

Source: authors' research

The second question was the analysis of the age, so between 20 and 30 years of age represented the equivalent of 50% of respondents, 30% of respondents were aged 30-40 years, the equivalent of 13% were aged ranging from 40 to 50 years, and 14 respondents equivalent to 7% are over 50 years of age.

The distribution of respondents after the last absolute studies highlighted that 21% of respondents have secondary education, 61% have higher education, and 18% of respondents have post-graduate studies.

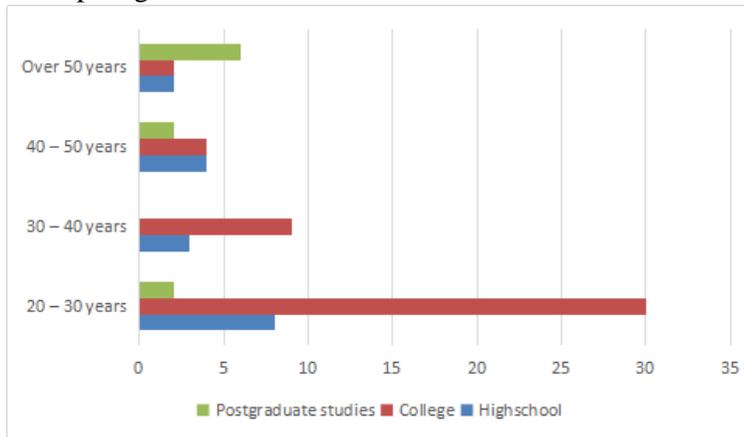


Figure 2. Distribution of respondents by age and studies

Source: authors' research

Job analysis revealed that 10% of people work in the public sector, while 17% work in the private sector, and 63% have different jobs.

Of those surveyed, 83% have stable residence in the urban area and 17% are rural.

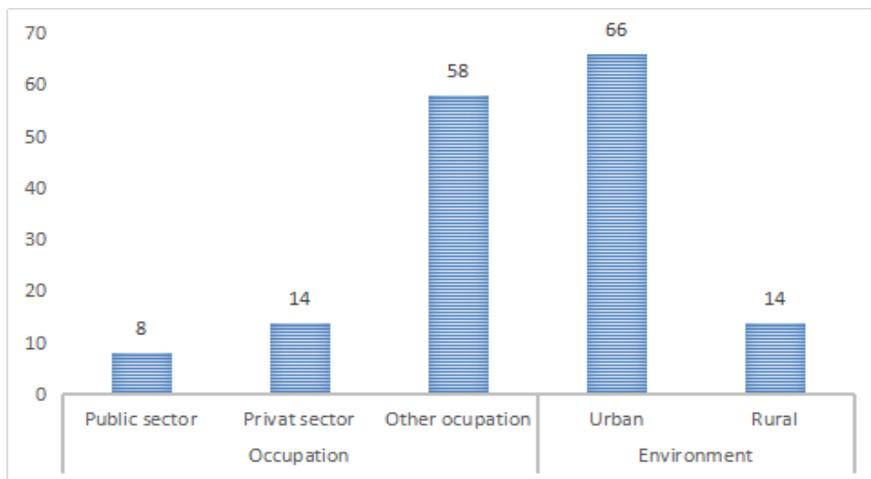


Figure 3. Distribution of respondents by job analysis and residence

Source: authors' research

Analyzing the respondents' income we noticed that the largest share is the respondents with incomes below 1500 Ron, the equivalent of 48%, the lowest share, 3% with people with incomes over 3000 Ron.

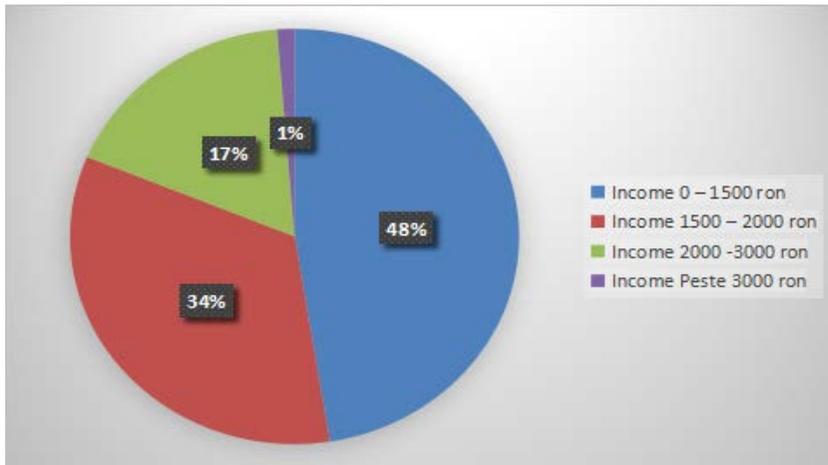


Figure 4. Distribution by income of the respondents

Source: authors' research

The question "How often do you participate in sports competitions?" intended to see the importance that spectators give to sport, so most of the respondents participate very often or often in various sports competitions, which is due to the fact that many respondents are young.

The question "What are the reasons for participating in sports competitions?" Made it possible to choose from 5 variants and the options were: "I go with friends" - 3.68%, "to get away from home" - 1.34% "To relax" - 14.74%, "to unload my inner tensions" 1.84%. Most of the respondents, 63.59%, participate in sports competitions for the reason "to support my team". Interestingly, the reasons for participation in sports games in the case of the studied sample are 77.61% of extrinsic nature, oriented towards the team and friends; while only 22.38% are intrinsic to the satisfaction of their own needs, but we can not underscore the relaxation function of the spectator sports show.

The next question, "How attached to your favorite team?" is trying to capture the level of attachment of viewers present in the room to their favorite team. Thus, a large majority (69%) mentioned that they are very attached to their favorite team, compared to only 23% who are just attached, respectively 8%, 10% people who are only slightly attached to the team. So most viewers are at least supporters, if not fans for their teams. Interestingly, referring to the average values of the viewers' age, those who responded "very attached" and "attached" fall around 40 years, while viewers who say "little attached" are aged around the age of 50.

To the question "How do you manifest when you think your own team is disadvantaged by the referees?", aims to highlight spectators' manifestations when they think the referees take decisions against the favorite team.

Thus, in the negative feelings / emotions were behaved as agitated and nervous, angry, disappointed; verbal expressions include whistles, bruises, injuries, screaming, interjections, voices, etc.

The supportive attitude is manifested by applause and encouragement; while in the "other" category have been assigned various responses or attitudes, encountered at a low frequency such as calm, decent, civilized, standing up, passive, gestures, tolerant, etc.

The investigated respondents are predominantly 33% verbally, 19.2% suffer from an important percentage. 5.5% are indifferent to the arbitrariness decisions of the referees, while pointing to the existence of a 3% who support their team even under these conditions.

The structure of the surveyed population highlights the fact that while the team is disadvantaged by the referees, over 45% of the men are verbally (swear, whistle etc.), while 60% of women have different negative inner feelings (nerves, stress, annoyance, etc.). At the occupational level, those who manifest themselves verbally are in the highest share of workers 21.56%, followed by pensioners by 15.68%.

At the same time, it should be noted that most of those who participate in games to relax (42.85%) are manifested by injuries and bruises when the referees make a tentative decision towards their own team.

To the question "Do you think that your manifestation may influence the evolution of the referees?", the responses received on the two categories of answers were very small, namely those who consider that their manifestations influence the referees' decisions 55%, and those who are convinced that they cannot influence referees' decisions 45%.

Reporting on respondents' studies highlights a slight tendency for people with higher education to believe they cannot influence referees' decisions by verbally aggressive behavior towards arbitrators' decisions.

At the same time, the persons who consider that they can influence the arbitrators' decisions are verbally, when the favorite team is disadvantaged, while the spectators who consider that they cannot influence the decisions of the referees are manifested through various inner feelings.

The question "Have you ever witnessed acts of violence of viewers?", tries to capture the appearance of the violence of spectators present at various sports competitions. In sports, aggressive behavior is fairly common, with only 57% of surveyed viewers witnessing violent acts of viewers, while 43% have not seen such manifestations.

Thus, the meaning of the term "violence" perceived by respondents is treated in the next item.

It appears that a number of behavioral acts that are perceived as acts of violence by those with higher education are perceived differently by subjects with fewer or undergoing training. So those who witnessed some acts they perceived to be acts of violence, a great deal are intellectuals with higher education, take part in the games of the favorite team to relax, and / or enter the room by taking advantage of the knowledge.

The question "What is the aggressive behavior of spectators?" Comes to complete the previous analysis, highlighting some types of aggressive behavior or some types of behavior perceived as aggressive by the viewers who are participating in this

study. Thus, the answers highlight a majority of 45% of the verbal manifestations, including both different appeals, swearing, scandalous scandals, vulgar language, unsportsmanlike language, as well as "interjections" or booters, whistles and other sounds.

Physical manifestations (embarrassment, beatings and beatings) are of small magnitude and frequency, only 7% of respondents have witnessed such behaviors.

Thus, the question "Why aggressively behave the spectators?", The structure of the answers, shows the following: 35% think that the referees are, by their performance, the main reason for the occurrence of violent acts of the spectators of various sports competitions.

Then 17% think that lack of moral qualities or education leads to aggressive behaviors among spectators, while 14% consider that inner feelings, nervousness, daily problems, being frustrated or choleric are the most important factors which determines aggressive behavior among spectators.

Other factors that determine spectators' aggressiveness are team attachment (6%), under-expected performance of the team, or poor performance (2%), or very little alcohol consumption by spectators before the game (0% ,5%).

Women consider the causes of violence to be the different inner feelings, attachment to the team, while men believe that referee performance or team evolution are the main determinants. Those with higher education consider, to the greatest extent, that "the lack of moral-educational qualities" and "inner feelings" are the main sources of violence to the spectators, while those with medium studies consider the judges to be the most which determines this kind of spectator acts.

4. CONCLUSIONS

This article aims to develop the knowledge of the ethics concept in sport, the understanding of how could ethics influences the moral behavior in the sport organizations, and the reasons that lead to aggressive and violent acts in different sports.

There are various limitations that are normal and should serve as a starting point for future research. The first limitation in this paper is related to the size and structure of the sample. Thus, future studies could try to conduct interviews in different cities in the country or abroad and rely on larger samples to better understand the importance of ethical concept in sport.

Future studies should also include different categories of fans and supporters of sport. This type of study would provide a more in-depth picture of the sports rules about ethics and the behavior of the fans.

Another point to be discussed in future research is to understand the consequences of a violent and aggressive acts encountered in different types of sports, the link between the athlete's behavior, how this influences the fans behavior and reaction.

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